

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 NEA-10 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01
CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 FRB-03 INR-10 NSAE-00
ICA-11 OPIC-03 SP-02 TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01
AGRE-00 OMB-01 SS-15 STR-07 XMB-02 /120 W
-----130785 131732Z /43

P 131551Z JUL 78
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2005
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY DUBLIN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY BERN
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY VIENNA
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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USEEC

USOECD

VIENNA FOR AMBASSADOR WELLS

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EGEN, UN, ECOSOC
SUBJECT: 1978 SUMMER ECOSOC: COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE (OVERVIEW COMMITTEE): EC-9 MEETING IN BRUSSELS AND GENEVA DEVELOPMENTS

REF: GENEVA 10556

1. EEC REP (MALVE) HAS FILLED US IN ON THE RESULTS OF THE JULY 12 EC-9 MEETING IN BRUSSELS ON THE OVERVIEW COMMITTEE, WHICH HE HIMSELF ATTENDED. HE REPORTED THE MEETING WAS FAR MORE POSITIVE ON THE UTILITY OF THE OVERVIEW COMMITTEE THAN PREVIOUS MEETINGS, WHERE SEVERAL MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY SEEMED TO WISH THE COMMITTEE WOULD GO AWAY. THE NEW ATTITUDE IS THAT THE COMMITTEE CAN INDEED FILL A VOID IN THE NORTH/SOUTH DIALOGUE AND THAT BEST EFFORTS SHOULD BE MADE TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE COMMITTEE'S UTILITY, IF AT ALL POSSIBLE. HE REFERRED PARTICULARLY TO THE POSITIVE ROLE OF THE FRENCH REP AT THE MEETING.

2. THE NINE HAVE MADE A DISTINCTION BETWEEN THE U.S. "NON-PAPER" CIRCULATED IN NEW YORK AND HERE AND VERSIONS OF IT GIVEN OUT IN CAPITALS, ON THE ONE HAND, AND THE EXPLANATION OF THE U.S. POSITION IN AMBASSADOR YOUNG'S ECOSOC SPEECH OF JULY 11 ON THE OTHEP.. SEVERAL EC-9 MEMBERS HAD PROBLEMS WITH THE FORMER BUT ALL ARE NOW PREPARED TO SUPPORT THE LATTER. WHILE MALVE ACKNOWLEDGES THAT THIS MAY BE A SOMEWHAT CONTRIVED DISTINCTION, IT HAS SERVED THE PURPOSE OF BRINGING THE NINE AROUND. HE COULD SEE THAT WE HAD MADE SOME LANGUAGE CHANGES TO ACCOMODATE THE MISGIVINGS OF THE NINE, BUT THAT WE WERE IN FACT GETTING AT THE SAME IDEAS IN MORE PALATABLE TERMINOLOGY.

3. WHILE SUPPORTING THE U.S. POSITION AS EXPLAINED IN AMBASSADOR YOUNG'S SPEECH, THERE WERE A FEW MINOR LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SUGGESTIONS AS WELL AS COMMENTS THAT EMERGED FROM THE BRUSSELS MEETING, RECORDED IN A PAPER THAT MALVE SHOWED US:

- A) IN PARAGRAPH 17 OF THE SPEECH THEY PREFERRED THE WORD "PROGRESS" RATHER THAN "CONCRETE NEW PROPOSALS".
- B) IN PARAGRAPH 19 THEY PREFERRED "EARLIEST POSSIBLE CONCRETE PROGRESS" IN PLACE OF "ACTION OR THE FORMULATION OF NEW POSITIONS".
- C) RE PARAGRAPH 20 THEY SIMPLY EXPRESSED A WORD OF CAUTION ON THE IDEA OF DEALING WITH ALL NIEO TOPICS DURING THE LIFE OF THE OVERVIEW COMMITTEE. (WE EXPLAINED THAT THE SPEECH SPOKE OF ALL MAJOR PROBLEM AREAS, WHICH MALVE UNDERSTOOD.)
- D) THEY EMPHASIZED THERE SHOULD BE NO NEGOTIATION OF A DOCUMENT CONTAINING THE CONCLUSIONS OF EACH MEETING, BUT RATHER A CHAIRMAN'S RESUME (A POSITION BASICALLY SIMILAR TO OURS).
- E) THEY ALSO STRESSED THE PARALLEL IMPORTANCE OF PROGRESS IN NEGOTIATING FORUMS.
- F) THEY WERE PREPARED TO STAY WITH THE AGENDA FOR THE SEPTEMBER MEETING AGREED TO BY CONSENSUS IN THE MAY MEETING, ALTHOUGH THEY WERE OPEN TO OTHER IDEAS

(APPARENTLY AN OBLIQUE REFERENCE TO OUR IDEA OF CONCENTRATING ON FOOD AND AGRICULTURE).

4. AT MALVE'S REQUEST WE WILL MEET WITH HIM AGAIN LATER TODAY PREPARATORY TO A MEETING OF THE NINE HERE ON THIS SUBJECT FIRST THING TOMORROW MORNING (JULY 14).

5. MEANWHILE, WE HAVE HEARD FROM COLOMBIAN AMBASSADOR CHARRY-SAMPER (PRESIDENT OF THE G-77 HERE) THAT A G-77 MEETING ON JULY 11 ON THE SUBJECT OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE WAS INCONCLUSIVE IN MOST RESPECTS ALTHOUGH IT DID AUTHORIZE JAZAIRY IN HIS DISCRETION TO CALL AN

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INFORMAL CONSULTATIVE "MEETING" OF THE COMMITTEE IN
GENEVA SOME TIME NEXT WEEK. WE HAVE NOT YET BEEN
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APPROACHED ON THIS BY JAZAIRY. (WE HAVE ALSO HEARD
FROM JAMAICAN AMBASSADOR MILLS, PRESIDENT OF ECOSOC
AND CHAIRMAN OF THE G-77 IN NEW YORK, THAT A NUMBER FAVOR
THE ALTERNATIVE OF A SERIES OF INFORMAL CONTACTS.)

6. IN HIS GENERAL DEBATE STATEMENT TODAY THE SWISS
OBSERVER WAS STRONGLY SUPPORTIVE OF THE U.S. SUGGESTIONS.
AS PRESENTED IN AMBASSADOR YOUNG'S SPEECH. VANDEN HEUVAL

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